



Director's Update

Effective 1/1/2020 the State of Georgia adopted 8 new codes and associated amendments. As a result, the department has updated our permit applications with the new Energy Code requirements. Staff has attended several training classes associated with the code changes with several more scheduled in the future. On December 12, 2019 - Approval was given by the Fayette County Board of Commissioners to move an employee position and Erosion and Sediment Control Inspections for new SFD Homes from our Environmental Management Department to the Department of Building Safety. This involves hiring a new Inspector, training staff (Red Card IB) and setting up Sages to incorporate the inspections and processes into the current system. We currently have hired the new inspector (Trey Carpenter); training will be completed the first week in February and we are on track to have Sages ready for our cutover date somewhere in the beginning to mid-March.

The Department of Building Safety is offering One on One SagesGov and / or other sponsored training (as it is made available) to all users. Please click the training link below, complete the form and a representative from the DBS will contact you to schedule a date.

[CLICK HERE to sign up for One on One Sages or Other Sponsored Training:](#)

Staff News

The Code Has Changed!

NEW CODE CHANGES FOR 01/01/2020

- International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) – 2015 Edition – With 2020 Ga. Amendments
 - International Building Code (IBC) – 2018 Edition – With 2020 Ga. Amendments
 - International Residential Code (IRC) – 2018 Edition – With 2020 Ga. Amendments
 - International Plumbing Code (IPC) – 2018 Edition – With 2020 Ga. Amendments
- International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) – 2018 Edition – With 2020 Ga. Amendments
- International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC) – 2018 Edition – With 2020 Ga. Amendments
- International Mechanical Code (IMC) – 2018 Edition – With 2020 Ga. Amendments
- International Fire Code (IFC) – 2018 Edition

Joe Scarborough

On December 31, 2019, we wished Joe Scarborough a healthy and hearty farewell as he set his sights on Retirement, Fishing, Golf, Motorcycles and Grandchildren. Joe worked for Fayette County for 18.5 years with the last 10 as the Building Official with the Department of Building Safety. We thank Joe for his direction and leadership over the years and know that he'll be dearly missed by many.



Renovation/Remodel

Since our last newsletter we have renovated the Building Safety Department customer lobby which provides a new fresh look, more lobby and work counter space and individual offices for our Permit Techs to be able to provide for a more focused customer experience.



Inspection Reminders / Updates

- **"Erosion and Sediment Control Inspection (New Home Construction)"** You will start seeing some new inspections (ESC1, ESC2 or ESC3) added into your current permits as we begin cross training with the Environmental Management Department in early February. These new inspections initially will not be scheduled by the home builder as we conduct training. As we move the new Sages processes into production in March, these new inspections will be scheduled like other inspections that are part of the homebuilding process.

- **"2017 NEC-Article 300"** When installing electrical in a concrete slab, an approved type electrical conduit, permitted by the NEC for that use, must be used.

- **"Code Section 305.6"** Protection against physical damage - where piping, other than Iron or Steel, is installed through holes or notches in studs, joists, rafters or similar members less than 1 1/4 inches from the nearest edge of the member the pipe shall be protected by steel plates.

- **"Attic Service Access"** Attics containing appliances or mechanical equipment service shall be accessible by pull down stairs or other permanent steps and at a minimum be sized to allow the removal of the largest appliance. (Georgia Amendment)

- **"Chimney Insulation Shield"** Factory-Built chimneys, which have been required to maintain a minimum clearance to insulation, are NOW REQUIRED to have an insulation shield to provide the clearance to the insulation.

- **"Temporary Guards"** Please remember to install temporary guards at all fall hazard areas of your building construction site. These areas may include stairways, landings, balconies, decks, retaining walls, etc.

- **"Homebuilder Training"** February 20, 2020 - We will provide an overview of the new codes adopted by the state. Contact Paige Hughes for details.

- **"Rope and Float"** In pools where the point of first slope break occurs, a rope and float assembly shall be installed across the width of the pool. The rope assembly shall be located not less than 1 foot (305mm) and not greater than 2 feet (610 mm) towards the shallow side of the slope break. Rope anchoring devices shall be permanently attached to the pool wall, coping or deck. Rope ends shall attach to the rope anchor devices so that the rope ends can be disconnected from the rope anchor device.

SagesGov Updates

There have been a few enhancements to the Sages permitting system since the last newsletter.

Application Form: Auto Fill & Copy from feature (New Feature)

- New feature to auto-fill contact fields on application and data forms.
- Users can click the "ink-filler icon next to contact fields to either choose to populate contact from current users' profile or copy from other contacts on the same form.

-Increased the number of inspections that can be scheduled at one time from 3 to 5. This should allow for more inspections to be scheduled if the scheduling rules allow the inspection to be scheduled with another inspection.

User Interface (*Enhancement*)

Sages is constantly striving to improve the user experience and make SagesGov work for all types of users across computers, tablets and smart phone devices. With that in mind, Sages has released a more **responsive and modern SagesGov user interface**. You will have the option to fall back to the old user interface for anytime for the next few months. Here are the details:

- Completely redesigned user interface across all pages.
- More responsive on smaller devices such as tablets and smart phones.
- Option for users to fall back to the old user interface anytime.

Help video to get you started on the new SagesGov user interface. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n6OUF7GUSM0&t=33s>

Inspector emails for those who wish to communicate with our inspectors by way of email:

- James Massey - jmassey@fayettecountyga.gov
- Jerry Bowles - jbowles@fayettecountyga.gov
- Chris Honeycutt - choneycutt@fayettecountyga.gov
- Trey Carpenter – tcarpenter@fayettecountyga.gov

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